

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2022

2:00 PM

Committee Members Present:

Randy Ognio, Representative, Fayette County BOC
Kevin Madden, Representative, Peachtree City
~~Lee Hearn – Chairman, Fayette County BOC~~
Edward Johnson – Mayor, City of Fayetteville
Gary Laggis – Mayor, Town of Woolsey
Maurice Ungaro – Staff, Town of Brooks
Phil Mallon – Staff, Fayette County
~~Tobi Ayodeji – Staff, Fayette County~~
Proxy: Debbie Bell – Staff, Fayette County
Chris Robison – Sgt., Fayette County Sheriff's Office
Martin Sas – Citizen Representative, Fayette County
~~Jaimi Tapp – Citizen Representative, Town of Tyrone~~
Proxy: Phillip Trocquet – Staff, Town of Tyrone

1. Call to Order

Randy Ognio called the January 11, 2022 meeting to order at 2:04 PM.

2. Ascertainment of Quorum

Mr. Ognio acknowledged that a quorum of the Transportation Committee was available with ten members present.

3. Elections

- a. *Chair* - Mayor Laggis nominated Randy Ognio as Chair. Martin Sas seconded the nomination. The motion was approved unanimously (10-0).
- b. *Vice-Chair* – Mayor Johnson nominated Maurice Ungaro for Vice-Chair. Martin Sas seconded the nomination. The motion was approved unanimously (10-0).
- c. *Secretary* – Mr. Mallon explained that this position is normally filled by clerical support from the Public Works Department, but the position is currently vacant. Mayor Johnson nominated Martin Sas for Secretary, with the understanding that clerical support would continue to be provided by County staff. Maurice Ungaro seconded the nomination. The motion was approved unanimously (10-0).

4. Acceptance of Meeting Agenda

Mr. Madden made a motion to accept the meeting agenda. Mayor Laggis seconded the nomination. The motion was approved unanimously (10-0).

5. Review and Approval of December Minutes

Mr. Ungaro motioned to approve the December minutes with no changes. Mr. Madden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously (10-0).

6. Review and Acceptance of 2022 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Mallon presented a draft meeting schedule for 2022. Meetings were proposed for the first Tuesday of the month except for January, April, July, and September, which were set for the second Tuesday of the month. Since there is no County Holiday impacting the April meeting, it was agreed to change it from April 12 to April 5. Mr. Ungaro made a motion to approve the calendar as amended. Mr. Madden seconded, and the amended calendar was approved unanimously (10-0).

7. Report of Committee Members

a. Brooks – Mr. Ungaro said he was a few minutes late because of an accident at the intersection of Hwy. 85 Connector and Morgan Mill Road. Mr. Ognio asked about the effort to rename Hwy. 85 Connector. Mr. Ungaro said the Town will send a notice/survey in a few weeks via the U.S. Postal Service to get feedback from residents.

b. Fayette County – The following information was provided by Mr. Mallon:

Truck Routes – The discussion of designated truck routes and/or no-truck routes was added to the Board of Commissioner’s January 13, 2022 meeting agenda. The agenda item seeks BOC guidance on if additional work should be performed on the development of a truck ordinance. The agenda references 11 roads; 5 roads with existing restrictions (from past BOC action) and the 6 roads recommended for consideration by the Transportation Committee in October 2021. Mr. Hindman noted that South Sandy Creek has signage with # of axle restrictions, but this was not formally approved by BOC.

ARC TIP Solicitation Update – There is no update from ARC on the two applications previously submitted to ARC: FA-279 and FA-100C (multi-jurisdictional resurfacing). Both are requesting additional funds for projects already in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Notices of funding awards are expected in spring 2022.

Project Updates – Work at the two roundabouts on SR 92 is nearly complete. GDOT held a final field inspection recently and several minor repair items, such as cracked concrete in a curb or gutter, were noted. GDOT said they typically update traffic counts upon completion of a project like this and they will share the data once it is collected.

Procurement – County staff has been focused on several procurement items recently, including the County’s new Engineer of Record, an Engineer for the SR

279 realignment project (FA-279), and an Engineer for the resurfacing contract (FA-100C).

- c. **Fayetteville** – Mr. Hindman advised that the City will be paving and repairing streets using LMIG finds. They will also proceed with the City Center Parkway project and will work with GDOT on the section from SR 54 to Melear's. Mayor Johnson said Chris Hindman will be the City's primary representative on the Committee moving forward.
- d. **Peachtree City** –Mr. Madden said Peachtree City is proceeding with construction of right-turn lanes at the Crosstown & Peachtree Parkway intersection. This is to prepare for a roundabout at this location.
- e. **Tyrone** – The following information was provided by Mr. Trocquet. The Town is updating their Comprehensive Plan and is looking at an area of north SR 74 for future production and industrial uses, particularly at Thompson Road. There is a full-median cut on SR 74 at this location and the intersection was not addressed in the 2017 Gateway Study area. Tyrone will discuss with GDOT the possibility of changes to the intersection.

Mr. Ognio asked if there are any updates on GDOT upgrades of the SR 74/I-85 interchange. Mr. Mallon replied that GDOT is proceeding with ROW acquisition.

- f. **Woolsey** – Mayor Laggis asked if the truck route presentation to the BOC included the Transportation Committee's recommendations. Mr. Ognio said it was a request for authorization from the BOC for the TC to send the recommendations to the County Attorney to review.

Mayor Laggis said residents on east side of Hampton Road have trouble pulling out of their driveways because westbound traffic is going too fast, especially problematic at the hill. Would County consider additional signage? [Speed Limit here is 35 MPH]. Mr. Mallon requested the contact information for the residents.

8. Public Comment

Keith Larson representing Bike-Walk FAYETTE spoke about a recent meeting with Fayette County's Pete Frisina regarding the Comprehensive Plan. The 2019 Comprehensive Transportation Plan included a number of improvements that would be good to incorporate in the Comp Plan update. He would also like to work with Woolsey on a pedestrian layout.

9. Unfinished Business

Mr. Mallon presented a list of 2023 SPLOST Candidate Projects for review with three qualifiers: 1) this is a preliminary list of projects and is not staff's final recommendations; 2) the costs are high level estimates for planning purposes and do not represent funding commitments from SPLOST; and 3) the City and Town projects are

based on past comments in Committee meetings and are provided only to prompt discussion. The Committee then reviewed the projects, grouped by city. See attached table.

Brooks

Mr. Ungaro noted that he thought Brooks should keep the Southern Rail Path project and perhaps one other project on the list.

Fayetteville - New City Council just appointed new SPLOST committee members, so they need to wait until that committee prepares a list for the City.

#8 - Hood Road Bridge @ Whitewater. Mr. Mallon reminded the group that, while he thinks this is a good project, it helped cause the 2010 SPLOST to fail. Discussion followed, noting that the project would probably be supported by Trilith. It could include a cart path, or be only a cart/pedestrian crossing, but that a parallel alternate access in that area would be good for emergency services to the hospital.

#3 - Creek Road, would be a shared project between the County and City with the intent of removing trucks from Grady and Bradford by providing direct access from SR 54 to transfer station. Large questions remain on who would lead this and how it would be paid for.

#4 - Sidewalk/Path extension on SR 54 would be a shared City/County project.

#5 - Ramah Rd at SR 85/92 – Mr. Mallon recommended omitting this since GDOT is planning intersection upgrades at 85/92.

#7 - Extend Sherwood to Lester Rd – would this be path only? Could include providing a connection to Redwine & Old Norton via utility easement at intersection of Redwine & Ramah. Chris Hindman said this may not be needed since Fayetteville is pursuing a path connection project further north on Redwine Road, from Ramah Road to The Ridge Nature Preserve.

#9 – Banks Road Path – Mr. Mallon recommends omitting this project right now as there is too much uncertainty about Banks Road.

Peachtree City – the new City Council just appointed SPLOST committee members, so need to wait until new members have opportunity to prepare a list.

Tyrone – funds listed for road & path maintenance. Possible needs include:

Rockwood @ West Crabapple – new intersection study

Castlewood @ Senoia

Senoia Rd @ Tyrone Rd – upgrade – traffic light or roundabout

LCI – downtown path & streetscape; connections to Sandy Creek School complex, Dogwood Trail (west side of SR 74), and Swanson Road. Mr. Trocquet said new path along Dogwood Trail on the east side of SR 74 is not being considered because of excessive costs.

Woolsey – Mayor Laggis supported the Hampton Road path project to connect to The Town to Lake Horton. Doing so supports redevelopment of downtown buildings and captures adjacent neighborhoods with the path system. There was discussion that the path might be able to utilize existing County/Water System property to keep it away from the roads in areas, and reduce cost.

Fayette County – Phil Mallon highlighted the following top three projects:

#4 – Eastin Rd @ Veterans Pkwy – temporary 4-way stop, to upgrade to roundabout

#5 - Banks @ Ellis – roundabout

#6 - McDonough Rd – 54 to McElroy – at peak times, traffic on McDonough Road backs up past intersection w/County Line Rd; needs traffic study to assess that intersection

Other projects under consideration include:

#9 – additional funding for the East Fayetteville Bypass (Corinth Rd would be separate project by GDOT)

#10 – SR 279 Concept Report for corridor widening or addition of turn lanes.

#11 – Redwine Rd – Whitewater Creek bridge replacement. Keith Larson asked if the bridge work can include a future path. Mr. Mallon said yes it would.

#12 – Ebenezer Church Rd @ Redwine Rd – roundabout

#13 – Eastin Rd @ Sandy Creek Rd – roundabout

#20 – Redwine Path – consider alternatives to expand accessibility to other neighborhoods – possibly part of path on Old Senoia Road, which would also include Bird Sanctuary. Use of power line easements might be another option.

#24 – Bernhard Road Path – Redwine Road to Carroll’s Way, which requires a bridge.

#15 – Graves @ Gingercake – possible roundabout? Needs traffic study

NEXT STEPS: Get feedback from SPLOST committees

10. New Business

- a. **PTC Multi-Use Path System Advisory Group** – Keith Larson gave a presentation on current problems with path system. A recent survey indicated that people don’t feel safe on the path because of uneducated users, poor or non-existent traffic signs/markings and deferred maintenance. See attached slides.
- b. **Update on County SPOLST Projects** – Phil Mallon suggested this be postponed until the February meeting in the interest of time.
- c. **Crash Reports** – Mr. Ognio requested the Sheriff’s Office provide crash data for most significant problem areas that are not at GDOT-related intersections.

The next meeting was set for February 2, 2022.

11. Adjournment. Mr. Madden made a motion to adjourn at 4:00 PM. The motion was seconded by Mr. Laggis and it passed unanimously.